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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/900,329	07/06/2001	Toru Aihara	JP9-2000-0129	5624
877	7590	08/26/2005	EXAMINER	
IBM CORPORATION, T.J. WATSON RESEARCH CENTER P.O. BOX 218 YORKTOWN HEIGHTS, NY 10598			GANTT, ALAN T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2684	

DATE MAILED: 08/26/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Supplemental
Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/900,329

Examiner

Alan T. Gantt

Applicant(s)

AIHARA ET AL.

Art Unit

2684

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/27/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11 and 13-16.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 06 July 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

SUPPLEMENTAL ACTION

(Including an Examiner's Amendment)

This Supplemental Action provides for a supplemental Notice of Allowance to provide for more appropriate claim language for claims 5 and 8 and to add limitations to more forcefully overcome the prior art for claims 10 and 16. An Examiner's amendment follows to perform these actions.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney Scott Reid on 8/18/05. The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 5 has been changed to:

--A radio ad-hoc network composing a cluster comprising:

a node of a cluster head and one or more nodes of cluster members, wherein the node of the cluster head comprising means for;

comprehending its own communication conditions with the nodes of the cluster members,

generating a schedule for change of the cluster head based on the communication conditions and

distributing the schedule to the nodes of the cluster members; and

wherein the nodes of the cluster members comprise means for;

comprehending their own communication conditions with the nodes composing the cluster based on the distributed schedule and

sending the communication conditions to the node of the cluster head.—

Claim 8 has been changed to:

--A radio ad-hoc network composing a cluster comprising:

a node of a cluster head and one or more nodes of cluster members, wherein the cluster head comprises means for distributing a schedule that determines a circulation operation of a tentative cluster head on the cluster members that compose that cluster; and

wherein the cluster members comprise means for comprehending as a tentative cluster head their communication conditions with other nodes based on the distributed schedule and means for sending the communication conditions to the cluster head, wherein the cluster members can become a new cluster head based on a delegation of authority from the cluster head.

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Claim 10, line 14 “communication conditions” has been changed to --communication conditions;

means for creating a schedule for circulating the cluster members in order as a tentative cluster head; and

means for distributing the created schedule to the cluster members.

Claim 12 has been canceled.

Claim 13, line 2 “claim 12” has been changed to --claim 13--.

Claim 14, line 2 “claim 12” has been changed to --claim 13--.

Claim 16, line 14 “communications conditions” has been changed to --communications conditions;

means for creating a schedule for circulating the plurality of slaves composing the piconet in order as a tentative master; and

means for distributing the created schedule to the plurality of slaves.--

Claim 17 has been canceled.

Claim 18 has been canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-11 and 13-16 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 10, a communication terminal that can be configured as one of a plurality of nodes composing a cluster as well as serving as a cluster head that allows communication with remaining nodes of cluster members and that as a cluster head has means for creating a schedule for circulating the cluster members in order as a tentative cluster head and means for distributing the created schedule to the cluster members was neither found, suggested, nor made evident by the prior art.

Regarding claim 16, a Bluetooth terminal that can be configured as one of a plurality of radio stations composing a piconet as well as managing a plurality of slaves as a master and as a master has means for creating a schedule for circulating the plurality of slaves composing the piconet in order as a tentative master and that has means for distributing the created schedule to the plurality of slaves was neither found, suggested, nor made evident by the prior art.

Regarding claims 1, 5, 8, and 15, the examiner is in agreement with applicant's arguments as to the reasons for allowance.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be addressed to Alan Gantt at telephone number (571) 272-7878. The examiner can normally be reached between 9:30 AM and 6 PM within the Eastern Time Zone. The group FAX number is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to this application should be directed to Supervisory Patent Examiner Nay Maung at telephone number (571) 272-7882.

Alan T. Gantt

Alan T. Gantt

August 22, 2005

Nick Corsaro
NICK CORSARO
PRIMARY EXAMINER